

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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DRAFTED BY ARA:HWSHLAUDEMAN

APPROVED BY THE SECRETARY

S/S- MR. ORTIZ

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R 211723Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260855

EXDIS FOR AMBASSADOR CRIMMINS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MPOL, PORC, BR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED MEETING OF DEFENSE MINISTERS ON CUBA

1. YOU WILL RECALL THAT SILVEIRA RAISED WITH THE SECRETARY HERE THE INITIATIVE IN THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD TO CONVOKE A HEMISPHERE MEETING OF MINISTERS OF DEFENSE TO CONSIDER THE CUBAN THREAT. YOU SHOULD TAKE AN APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE SILVEIRA AN ORAL REPLY ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES.

2. A RESOLUTION HAS BEEN VOTED IN THE IADB WHICH, INTER ALIA, CALLS FOR THE CONVOCAION OF A MEETING OF MINISTERS OF DEFENSE ON THE CUBAN PROBLEM. THE RESOLUTION HAS NO STANDING UNTIL APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS OF THE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS. EVEN THEN IT IS, OF COURSE ONLY ADVISORY. WE SEE LITTLE PROSPECT OF A TWO-THIRDS APPROVAL ANY TIME SOON. WE ARE FOLLOWING THE MATTER IN THE IADB CLOSELY AND WILL BE DEVELOPING A POSITION SHOULD THE INITIATIVE APPEAR TO BE MAKING PROGRESS. IN THE MEANTIME, WHATEVER VIEWS THE GOB MIGHT WISH TO GIVE US ON THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE WELCOME.

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3. FYI. THE US DELEGATION TO THE IADB DID APPROVE THE

RESOLUTION ON SEPTEMBER 23. (ONLY GUATEMALA AND

EL SALVADOR HAVE SO FAR DONE THE SAME.) HOWEVER, THAT ACTION DOES NOT COMMIT THE USG TO ANY SPECIFIC IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATION FOR A MEETING OF DEFENSE MINISTERS. YOU SHOULD MAKE THAT POINT IF SILVEIRA REFERS TO THE SEPTEMBER 23 ACTION. END FYI.

KISSINGER

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